

# Preface

A team of consultants led by Cambridge Systematics, Inc. was hired by the Washington State Transportation Commission to conduct a Comprehensive Statewide Tolling Study. The study is being done at the direction of the Washington State Legislature who directed the Commission to conduct a: "...study of the State's transportation system to determine the feasibility of administering tolls on specific transportation facilities or a network of facilities" (2005-2007 Transportation Budget, Chapter 313, Laws of 2005, Section 206(1)). This study will also serve as the comprehensive tolling study required for the new Transportation Innovative Partnerships Program (TIPP) (Chapter 317, Laws of 2005, Section 9 (2)(a)), and as the tolling study necessary to implement toll facilities within the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID).

The first deliverable in this study is an *Initial Assessment*, which is provided in the set of working papers that follow. These papers are intended to provide the reader some background on national perspectives on various aspects of tolling, as well as lay the groundwork for how the study will approach various issues.

The following working papers are included:

1. Purpose, Objectives, and Outcomes;
2. National Perspective: Uses of Tolling and Related Issues;
3. National Perspective: Organizational and Administrative Structures;
4. Equity and Fairness: A National Review;
5. Limitations of Studies used to Advance Toll Projects;
6. Tacoma Narrows Bridge Analysis: Framework, Methodology, and Scenarios; and
7. National Perspective: Review of Public Attitudes and Perceptions.

The next deliverable will be the Interim Report, which is due to the Legislature in January 2006. This interim report will provide additional Washington-specific analysis, and is intended to inform discussions on tolling in Washington State.